SPECIAL APIC NEWSLETTER AND AUCTION REPORT Sept. 6, 1961

The first APIC Auction is now history and although I'd expected that almost 100 items would be offered, I believe it has been a real success and worthwhile. Thanks to all who participated.

If you were a bidder and a notice is not enclosed with this letter you'll know your bid or bids were topped. There were over 225 bids, so many of you will be disappointed I'm sure, but you can have the satisfaction of knowing that each of you had an equal chance at each item. Someone just thought the item worth more to them, than you thought it worth to you. It's the same as passing up an item in a shop which you believe to be overpriced.

Several asked if a list was going to be sent giving the prices realized on each item. The Committee discussed this and decided not to issue one, as quite a few items brought unrealistic prices. Probably like myself, certain collectors had a particular desire for a certain item and were willing to pay more than the item normally should bring. We felt that the minimum price asked can be used as a better guide to values, in most instances. We are sure some of you won't agree with our decision but we believe it's in the best interest. Most active bidding was on the mechanical items and the third party buttons; even more than on the ferrotypes which greatly surprised us.

Last spring one of our members was active in the organization of a new group, the Society of Tokens, Medals & Obsolete Paper Money Collectors. I'm sure many of you may be interested in joinkng this active group; if so contact Lucy A. Kelly, Sec'y Treas., 3410 Ford, McKeesport, Pa., dues are $2.00 per year plus $1.00 initiation fee.

I have received a letter from a member and friend who is connected with one of the companies who are issuing some of the replicas (copies of Lincoln & Civil War Medals) mentioned in my last new letter. He explains that each of their medals has a blank reverse or has "Becker" or "REB" incused (cut in) on the lower part of the reverse side of each item. Most of their production is in white medal but several varities are being made in silver and other medals. Have heard of other companies not identifying their items at all, so be sure you know your dealer when buying these items. Hope some method to identify such items can be used which will make it impossible for the unknowing collectors to be "taken in" by the unscrupulous dealers.

What do you think of our adopting an emblem to identify the APIC? Why not send in a sketch of an appropriate design, on a least 5 x 7 paper, and a Committee will choose several and let the membership decide which they would prefer to have as our official emblem. (Be sure it can be legible when reduced to a very small size) Also hope to offer letterhead paper, in the near future, to members, which will be imprinted with name and address and incorporates the APIC emblem etc. Send your proposed APIC emblem to me and we'll get the ball rolling. Let's have a real EYE-CATCHER emblem, can we count on you?

The great interest shown in the Third Party items offered in the recent auction prompts me to begin a project which I have contemplated for some time. I'm sure a list of campaigns for which buttons and ribbons etc, were issued would be a welcome reference, as many campaigns are not represented, i. e., Prohibition 1956. Will each of you send me a list of your Third Party buttons, ribbons, pins, etc.? Do not include leaflets, brochures, platforms, etc., note if item is pin back, and if a photo, name or names, or jugate. Will mail a listing to all members as soon as the information is complete.

Jack

U. I. Chick Harris, President